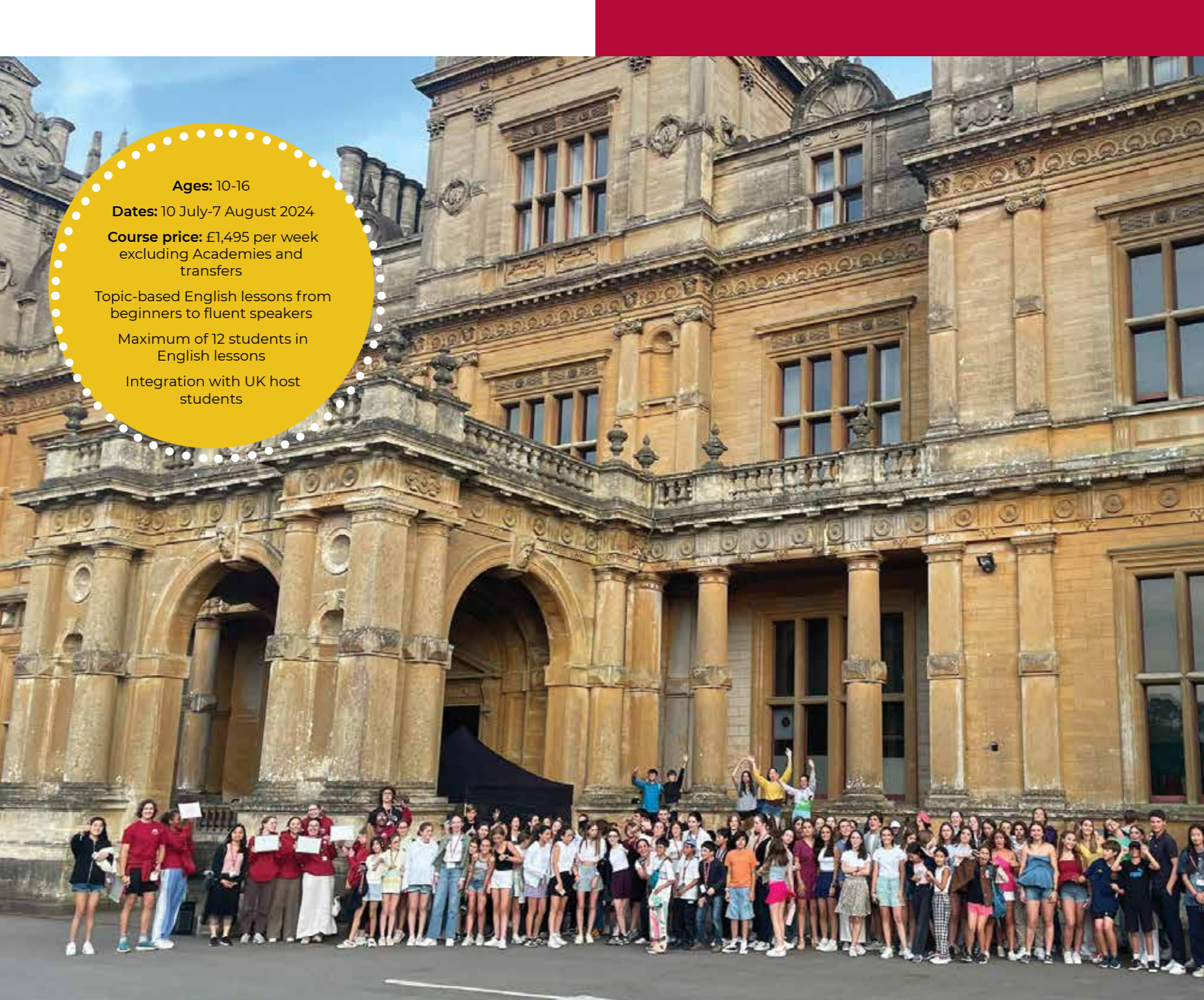


# WESTONBIRT SUMMER SCHOOL

INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS



WESTONBIRT  
— SCHOOL —



**Ages:** 10-16  
**Dates:** 10 July-7 August 2024  
**Course price:** £1,495 per week excluding Academies and transfers

Topic-based English lessons from beginners to fluent speakers

Maximum of 12 students in English lessons

Integration with UK host students

# A WELCOME FROM THE HEAD

A warm welcome to Westonbirt School. At Westonbirt, we thrive on being able to present pupils with a remarkable setting for their daily educational routine, and this fourth term of Summer School is no different. With some staff and pupils who overlap both the main school and our summer provision, you will be guaranteed an inspired stay, and I hope that we can offer you a taste of the academic and pastoral provision you would usually find here on campus. Have a wonderful time, and perhaps, one day, you may even be here for longer!



**Natasha Dangerfield**  
 Head of Westonbirt School



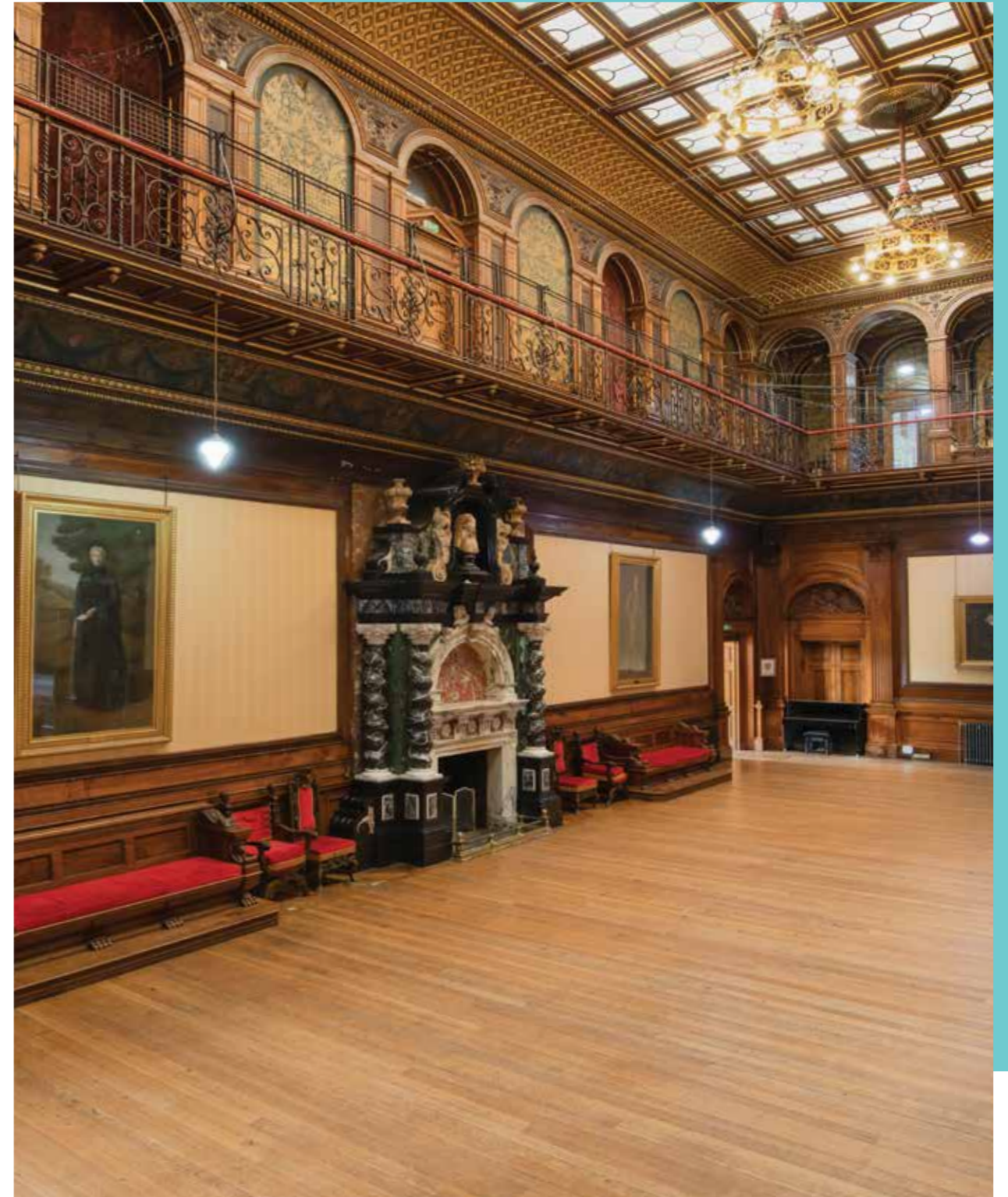
# HISTORY OF WESTONBIRT

Westonbirt House was built in the late 1800s by Robert Holford, one of the richest men in England, and was the most expensive and luxurious country house created in the whole of the Victorian era.

A school for over 95 years, its stunning architecture and interior design, as well as extensive parkland, make Westonbirt House a dramatic and exciting environment in which to live and learn.

The Cotswolds region of England is considered one of the most beautiful parts of the UK. It is home to several members of the Royal family, with links to horse eventing and polo. With its rolling countryside and quintessentially English

villages, the Cotswolds is a popular holiday destination, and offers a huge variety of outdoor activities, from walking and riding, to sailing and other water sports. Set in a county steeped in history, with Roman remains, medieval castles and Tudor palaces, Westonbirt School is within half an hour of the World Heritage City of Bath, with its Roman Baths and great shopping opportunities, and is just 90 minutes from London.





# WELCOME TO WESTONBIRT SUMMER SCHOOL

**Westonbirt School is a truly special place.**

It's a long-established and well-regarded boarding school with a reputation built on recognising and bringing out the best in every pupil - all in the inspirational setting of a Victorian stately home with 210 acres of beautiful grounds.

But even more importantly, it's a school values keeping its doors open in the summer, welcoming students from all over the world to give them a taste of the true value of independent education.

Our exceptional, topic-based approach to language teaching in small groups that caters for students from beginner to fluent levels, our varied Team Project Challenges, specialised Academies and the rare chance of integration with UK host students within a summer school setting make Westonbirt Summer School a unique offering.

We can't wait to welcome our 2024 summer school students here in the beautiful Cotswolds - and to see them become proud Westonbirt students within a couple of weeks.



**Andras Sztrokay**  
Director of Summer Schools  
Wishford Education



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

There are several stand-out features of Westonbirt Summer School. At its core, our small-group English language classes suit all levels from beginners to fluent speakers. Then there are the immersive team projects with English host students, the wide variety of Activities and Academies from which to choose, as well as exciting excursions to popular tourist sights, all combining to make Westonbirt Summer School the perfect summer holiday.

## LEARNING IN THE MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS

Students take part in English language lessons on five mornings a week (a total of 15 hours of classroom-based learning). We ensure that all students are happy, challenged and grow in confidence.

We also offer Team Project Challenges on three afternoons a week (a total of 4.5 hours of informal learning), where students work in mixed-age and mixed-ability classes in an immersive environment, together with UK host students.

## AFTERNOON ACADEMIES AND ACTIVITIES

Our pupils enjoy 8 hours of focused Academy or Activity time across four afternoons each week. Our Academy options are ideal for those who would like to get a taste of the dedicated support that Westonbirt provides to students, helping them develop their skills in a particular area. The Multi-Activity Programme is a great choice for students who would like to do a bit of everything.

TIMETABLE							
	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
8.00		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8.50-9.50	ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DAY OR HALF-DAY EXCURSION	English lessons	English lessons	English lessons	FULL-DAY EXCURSION	English lessons	English lessons
9.50-10.10		Break	Break	Break		Break	Break
10.10-11.10		English lessons	English lessons	English lessons		English lessons	English lessons
11.10-11.30		Break	Break	Break		Break	Break
11.30-12.30		English lessons	English lessons	English lessons		English lessons	English lessons
12.30-13.30		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch
13.30-15.00		Team Project Challenge	Team Project Challenge	HALF-DAY EXCURSION		Team Project Challenge	Reflection, feedback and certificates
15.00-16.00		Refreshments	Refreshments			Refreshments	Refreshments
16.00-18.00		Academies/Activities	Academies/Activities			Academies/Activities	Academies/Activities
18.00-18.30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner			Dinner	Dinner
18.30-19.30	House time	House time	House time			House time	House time
19.30-21.00	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity	Evening activity

## EVENINGS

After a busy day of learning and fun, students can enjoy the beautiful grounds, read in the attractive boarding rooms, or hang out with friends. They are also able to contact family, to tell them about each day's adventures.

The evening continues with social activities, including quizzes, discos, and karaoke or movie nights. As well as lots of fun, this time is a perfect opportunity for students to continue to use their English in an even more relaxed environment.

## TRIPS

There are three excursions each week. Full-day excursions take place on Sundays with half-day trips on Saturdays and Wednesdays (for those not arriving or leaving that day). Students up to the age of 12 are always supervised on excursions, while those aged over 12 may be given limited free time to explore the area in small groups, with parental consent.

Our busy timetable ensures that the students have a great balance of classroom learning, outside activities and social events, and over all, a fantastic experience during their summer holidays.



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

## KEY FACTS

### Age groups:

Juniors: 10-12 years  
Seniors: 13-16 years

### Class sizes:

Maximum of 12 students per class

### Hours per week:

15 hours of lessons per week

### Levels:

Beginner to fluent speakers

### Our programme develops:

- Practical language skills in an English-speaking environment
- Listening and reading skills in an exciting way, using as many authentic materials as possible (depending on students' abilities)
- Speaking and writing skills using a topic-based approach, focusing on students' experiences through diary writing and on oral communication skills through debates and presentations
- Critical thinking skills by helping students reflect on their language use
- Intercultural awareness

**Course materials:** A mix of General English and IB English textbooks and authentic materials

**Levels:** Students receive an online placement test and questionnaire prior to arrival so that they can be placed in the best class for their needs. If necessary, we carry out further tests on arrival.

The chart below gives an overview of how our class levels relate to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Students are placed into English language groups dependent on age and English ability.

The ages, number and ability of students change week to week, and we adapt class levels to ensure they match students' needs.

## CEFR LEVELS

Beginner (A0)  
Elementary (A1)

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Intermediate (B1)

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Advanced (C1)  
Proficient (C2)

## SUMMER SCHOOL LEVELS

Level 1  
(Lower)

Level 2  
(Pre-intermediate)

Level 3  
(Intermediate)

Level 4  
(Upper-intermediate)

Level 5  
(Fluent speakers)



## FLUENT SPEAKERS

Our approach to teaching is topic-based, inspired by IB English (rather than General English), which means that fluent speakers at C1 & C2 levels enjoy a high-level, practical engagement with the English language. It ensures that students with particularly advanced standards of English (for example, those who attend international schools, have studied English for a long time or have, in fact, grown up speaking English) are still challenged at the right level in class.



# TEAM PROJECT CHALLENGES

On three afternoons each week, students take part in a Team Project Challenge. These fun, immersive and competitive tasks encourage our students to use their growing language skills in group conversation, alongside their UK host students. They are carefully designed to develop communication, problem-solving, critical thinking, listening, presentation and leadership skills. Examples of possible challenges are given below. Challenges for 10–12-year-olds may be different to those for 13–16-year-olds; however, on most weeks these sessions are in mixed-age and mixed-level groups.

## ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Putting their engineering skills to the test, this challenge involves constructing bridges and catapults from a limited bank of resources. Teams compete to see whose catapult can shoot the furthest, and whose bridge withstands most force.

## ENTREPRENEURIAL CHALLENGE

In this challenge, inspired by the ever-popular Dragons' Den series, students research, develop and market a brand-new idea, finally pitching their business to potential investors. They explore budgets, market research and profit margins.

## ECO CHALLENGE

Students explore the unique environment of Westonbirt, exploring the flora and fauna of the parkland and the lake, and create bug hotels. They also assess the ecological impact of our Summer School and work out what actions could make it more eco-friendly.

## TRADING GAME

This challenge gets students to simulate trade between countries, experience what it means to have or lack resources, and how they must adapt what they do depending on other countries' actions and a changing global environment.

## KNIGHTLY PURSUITS

Students aged 10-12 experience a range of skills required to be a knight, and find out what life would be like in Medieval England. This is a fun course, with numerous practical activities, designed for enjoyment and to provide unique experiences.



# ACADEMIES AND ACTIVITIES

Westonbirt's outstanding facilities and extensive grounds allow us to offer professional tuition in a wide range of high-quality Academy opportunities on four afternoons each week. Students can opt to receive up to eight hours of coaching per week in their chosen Academies or they can decide to join the Multi-Activity Programme and spend more time with the UK host students doing a variety of activities.

Students can choose one Academy each week from those listed below. (Not all Academies are available each week.) Students who do not wish to specialise in one specific Academy each week join the Multi-Activity Programme, where they usually do two activities each afternoon – with a choice of at least two different options.



## SCHEDULE

	week 1	week 2	week 3	week 4
Cookery Academy				
Golf Academy				
Horse Riding Academy				
Horse Riding Masterclass				
Performing Arts Academy				
Robotics Academy				
Tennis Academy				
Multi-Activity Programme				

## COOKERY

Westonbirt School is a provider of highly regarded cookery courses, and our summer school students have access to our newly refurbished cookery room to enjoy the Cookery Academy. Students will learn a range of classic cooking techniques, creating a different dish each day.

**Session length:** 4 x 2-hour sessions per week

**Equipment:** No specialist equipment needed

**Available:** Weeks 1, 2, 3 & 4

**Cost:** £150 per week



## HORSE RIDING

The Cotswolds is famous horse-riding country, and home to the internationally renowned Badminton and Gatcombe Horse Trials. Students get the chance to develop their riding skills (walking, trotting and cantering), and enjoy a hack in the beautiful Gloucestershire countryside.

**Session length:** 2 x 2-hour sessions per week (guaranteed 1 ½ hours riding in each session)

**Equipment:** Hats and body protectors are provided; students must bring riding boots and trousers

**Available:** Weeks 1 & 3

**Cost:** £250 per week

## GOLF

Westonbirt School has its very own 9-hole golf course. Our Golf Academy helps students learn and improve their game. Focus is on the core aspects of this increasingly popular sport, such as driving, iron play, chipping, putting and bunker shots. Experienced players can play on the golf course.

**Session length:** 4 x 2-hour sessions per week

**Equipment:** Loan clubs are provided, but students are welcome to bring their own

**Available:** Weeks 1, 2, 3 & 4

**Cost:** £150 per week





## MULTI-ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

Those students not wishing to specialise can take part in this Multi-Activity Programme, where they will have the chance to try different activities every afternoon. Students enjoy up to two activities per day from the list below, with a choice of at least two. Options may include Fencing, Basketball, Swimming, Football, Touch rugby, Badminton, Kwik cricket, Arts and crafts, Water polo, Softball, Rounders and Volleyball. The Multi-Activity Programme is included in the standard package.



## TENNIS

Expert coaching for players of all abilities in this hugely popular sport, using Westonbirt's hard courts. Students will learn all aspects of the sport, from understanding grip, forward and backhand strokes, serving, volleying, and court positioning.

**Session length:** 4 x 2-hour sessions per week

**Equipment:** Loan rackets are provided, but students are welcome to bring their own

**Available:** Weeks 1, 2, 3 & 4

**Cost:** £150 per week

## PERFORMING ARTS

Westonbirt School boasts vibrant and exciting Music and Drama departments. This Academy is a creative combination of music, drama and dance, leading to a short performance at the Talent Show, using the school's performing arts facilities and expert tuition.

**Session length:** 4 x 2-hour sessions per week

**Equipment:** No specialist equipment needed

**Available:** Weeks 2 & 4

**Cost:** £150 per week

## ROBOTICS

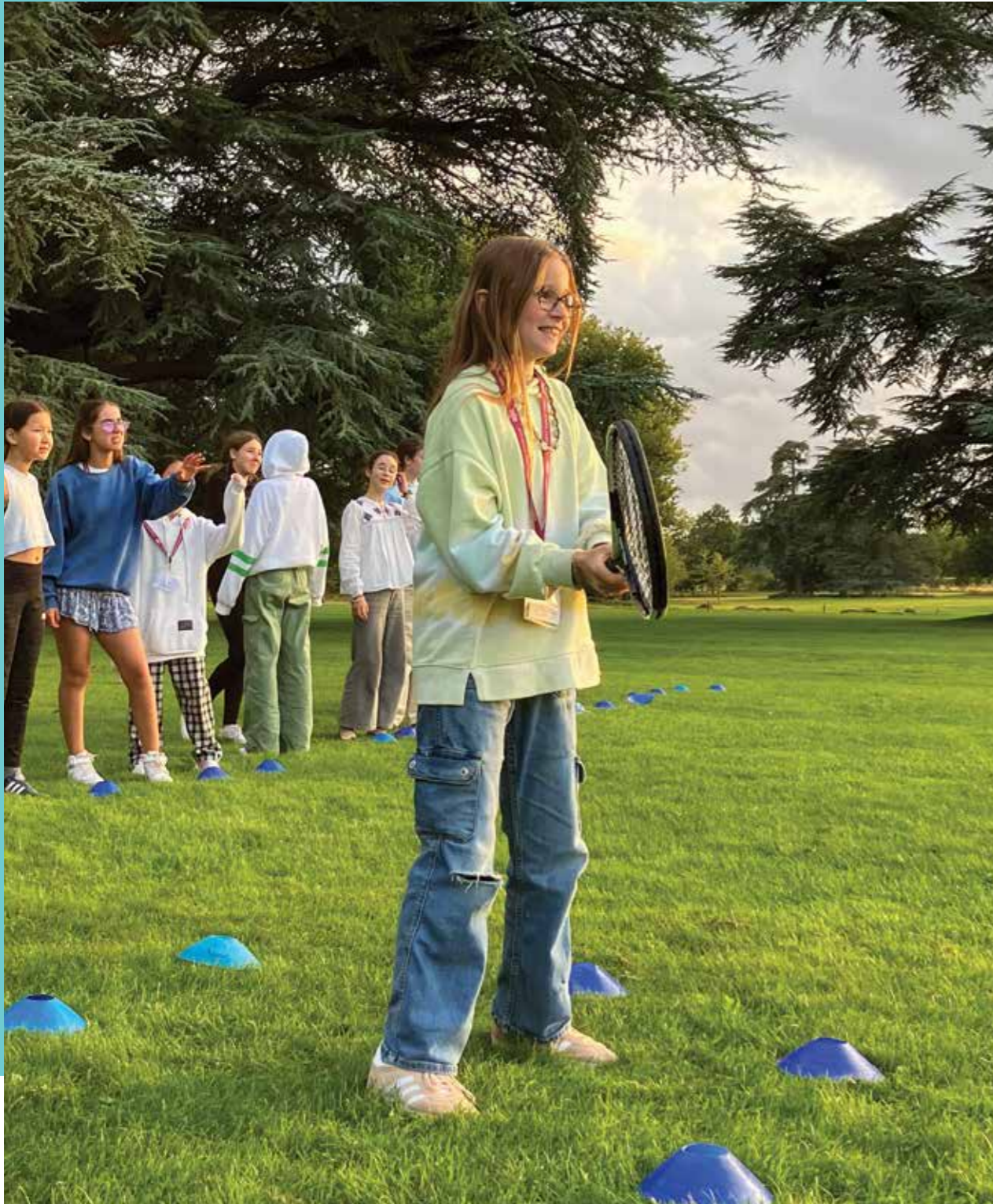
Westonbirt School offers excellent STEM provision. Our Robotics Academy is a crash course in block-based programming, making use of micro:bits and LEGO® education kits. Students can learn to control a robot and build up more complex functionality during the week.

**Session length:** 4 x 2-hour sessions per week

**Equipment:** No specialist equipment needed

**Available:** Weeks 1 & 3

**Cost:** £150 per week



## EVENINGS

The Westonbirt evening activity programme embodies our spirit of fun, and is central to helping our students build friendships across ages and nationalities. UK host students join international students for a wide variety of activities, including:

- Talent shows
- Discos
- Karaoke evenings
- Film nights
- Capture the flag
- Quiz night
- Mini Olympics
- Board game nights
- Murder mysteries
- Escape room games





**DISCOVERING THE BEST OF ENGLAND:**

# TRIPS AND EXCURSIONS

With Westonbirt as a base, students are able to access many of England's most popular sights. Within easy distance of the world-famous cities of Bath and Oxford, and just 90 minutes from London, we can offer our students experiences that they will remember all their lives.

## FULL-DAY SUNDAY TRIPS

### LONDON

**Dates:** weeks 1 & 4  
**Attraction:** River Cruise (week 1) or London Eye (week 4)  
 England's exciting and vibrant capital city offers a thrilling day out for our students. Taking in iconic sights including the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament, this full-day trip is a highlight of our Summer School.

### OXFORD

**Date:** week 2  
**Attraction:** Punting and college visit  
 Oxford is most famous for its 12th century university, still a world-leading place of learning and research. The beautiful medieval architecture, museums and shopping opportunities make it popular with our international students.

### CARDIFF

**Date:** week 3  
**Attraction:** Cardiff Castle  
 Cardiff, the bustling Welsh capital, offers a great insight into historic and present-day Wales. The highlight of our visit is Cardiff Castle, which opens a window into Roman, Norman and Victorian times.

## HALF-DAY SATURDAY TRIPS

### BATH

**Date:** week 1  
**Attraction:** Roman Baths  
 A visit to the beautiful, historic World Heritage City of Bath.

### LEGOLAND®

**Date:** week 2  
**Attraction:** LEGOLAND® Windsor  
 An unmissable attraction for all ages, a theme park with everything LEGO®.

### COTSWOLD COUNTRY PARK AND BEACH

**Date:** week 3  
**Attraction:** AquaVenture inflatable course  
 A fun day out at the UK's largest inland sandy beach and swimming lagoon.

### BRISTOL

**Date:** week 4  
**Attraction:** Bristol Aquarium  
 A trip to the exciting and energetic city of Bristol, and its historic port.



## HALF-DAY WEDNESDAY TRIPS (for those not arriving or departing on the day.)

### CIRENCESTER

**Date:** week 1  
 An excursion to the vibrant market town of Cirencester.

### TETBURY

**Date:** week 2  
 A light one-hour hike to the local Cotswolds town of Tetbury.

### MALMESBURY

**Date:** week 3  
 A visit to Malmesbury, a historic town with a 12th century abbey.

This schedule reflects our plans. However, due to external factors such as weather, travel restrictions or venue availability, we reserve the right to change this and offer suitable alternatives.

# HORSE RIDING MASTERCLASS

Westonbirt's elite Horse Riding Masterclass is an amazing opportunity for students to experience the very highest quality riding instruction in the beautiful and inspiring English countryside. Students will enjoy a wide range of equine activities in the afternoons led by highly experienced, friendly instructors.

**SESSION LENGTH:** 4 full afternoons per week, plus one full-day excursion. See notes on programme exclusions.

**EQUIPMENT:** Hats and body protectors are provided; students must bring riding boots and trousers

**AVAILABLE:** Weeks 3 & 4. This Masterclass is intended for confident riders (ability to canter is a must) and it is therefore not suitable for beginners. Limited to the first 12 applicants.

**COST:** £1,350 for two weeks



## SCHEDULE

### Thursday 25 July

#### ASSESSMENT AND HORSE ALLOCATION

Rider assessments and horse allocation, followed by induction and familiarisation of the yard, coaches, grooms and horses. Riders will be paired with a horse which will be theirs for the duration of the programme. This will be followed by an exciting and intensive session to ascertain each rider's ability. Students will ride on the flat and over jumps, if they are capable.

### Friday 26 July

#### SKILL SESSIONS

This is when the real excitement begins. Participants will have a dressage session and show jumping session, with the opportunity to

jump a course. They will finish their afternoon with a cross country session, all in preparation for the One Day Event competition.

### Monday 29 July

#### SKILL SESSIONS

Further dressage, show jumping and cross-country sessions. Riders will learn how to perform the dressage test in a competition arena on grass, and will jump a sample competition course.

### Tuesday 30 July

#### PRACTICE SESSIONS

Final practices of the three elements that make up the One Day Event. Riders will learn more about the cross-country course and how to stay safe across open countryside.

### Thursday 1 August

#### COMPETITION DAY

Show Day! On arrival at the stables, riders will prepare their horses for show day, bathing and plaiting their manes and tails, culminating in the One Day Event, where they will put all their new dressage, show jumping and cross-country skills to the test.

### Friday 2 August

#### INTERNATIONAL EVENT RIDER LECTURE & DEMONSTRATION

An international event rider will give a talk, demonstration and masterclass on one of their horses, followed by all riders having a relaxed hack in the beautiful English countryside setting of Cirencester Park.

This schedule reflects our plans. However, due to external factors such as weather, travel restrictions or venue availability, we reserve the right to change this and offer suitable alternatives.

### Sunday 4 August

#### GATCOMBE FESTIVAL OF BRITISH EVENTING

Visit to the famous Gatcombe Festival of British Eventing, held in the grounds of Gatcombe House, home to Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal. Gatcombe Festival of Eventing is one of England's premier equestrian events. Students will see international riders taking on dressage, show jumping and the cross-country course.

### Monday 5 August

#### POLO LESSON

Pupils are offered the exceptional opportunity to take a two-hour Polo lesson at Beaufort Polo Club, where Princes William and Harry learnt the game. Students will be joined by International polo players, who will give an inspiring talk and demonstration of the game.

### Tuesday 6 August

#### EQUESTRIAN SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

Pupils will have a fabulous shopping experience followed by a classical English afternoon tea at one of England's leading equestrian stores.

#### PROGRAMME EXCLUSIONS

The Riding Masterclass takes the whole afternoon; therefore, students opting for this academy will not be able to participate in the Team Project Challenges. Students will also participate in a separate full-day trip on Sunday 4 August and will thus not travel to London with the rest of the group.

# STAYING WITH US

## ACCOMMODATION

Westonbirt House is a beautiful place to live. It reminds many of our pupils of Hogwarts, with its extraordinary architecture and amazing interior decoration.

Our bright and cosy single rooms and 2-6-bed dorms provide a comfortable and reassuring space for students to relax and sleep. Rooms are allocated depending on numbers, but in general, older students have priority for the single rooms.

Students are supported and cared for by friendly house parents, who make sure that their stay is safe and fun, arranging medical support if necessary.



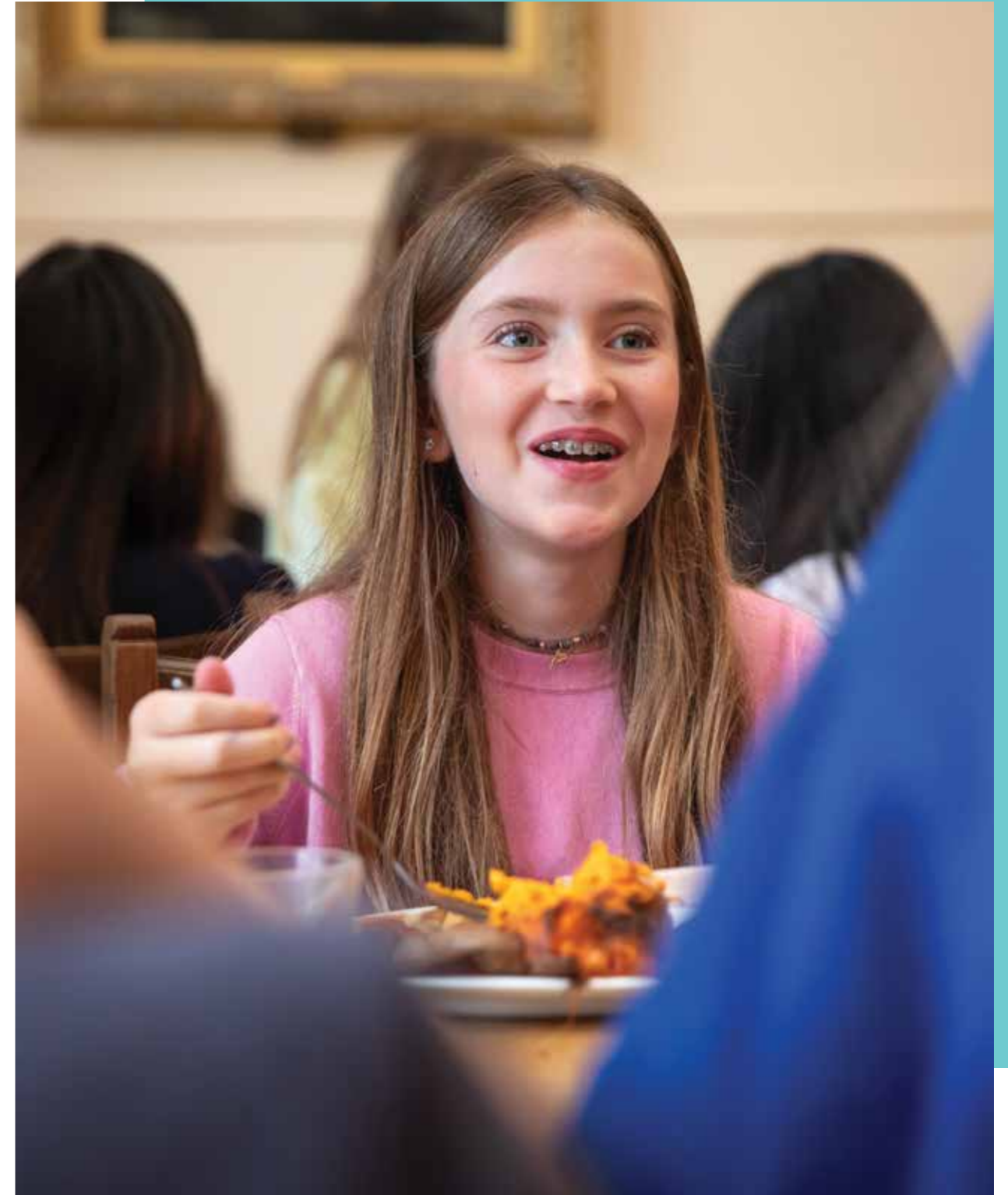
## FOOD

Westonbirt School pupils all agree that meals here are absolutely delicious! They are provided by our top school caterers, who serve up a varied and nutritious range of meals, with enough choice to meet a wide range of dietary requirements.

Each day, students will enjoy a hearty breakfast, a mid-morning snack, lunch, afternoon snacks and an evening meal, with some more late-night snacks available in the dorms.

Main meals are taken in the beautiful and ornate dining rooms at Westonbirt.

For full-day excursions, a packed lunch is provided.





# SAFEGUARDING AND WELFARE

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and we realise that it is often a difficult time for children and parents alike to be far from each other. Our comprehensive Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy and extensive procedures ensure that we keep children safe and families comfortable. The points below are only some highlights from our safeguarding and welfare measures.

## TRAINED AND APPROACHABLE STAFF

All our staff members participate in safeguarding training specifically for our summer school. They are supported by a highly trained and experienced safeguarding team. Students are looked after by house parents and dedicated welfare support staff, and they can also always approach any of our friendly staff members if they need help.

## POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

We provide a positive, supportive and nurturing environment, where every student can feel safe. While we have clear expectations for behaviour and conduct, we believe in positive behaviour management, which helps students adapt their behaviour to a school system that may be completely new to them.

## SECURE CAMPUS AND ACTIVITIES

Westonbirt School is an exceptionally safe location, a self-contained school campus, where students live in a truly secure environment. We have specific risk assessments in place for every activity and excursion we organise, so that staff and students are as prepared as possible for any eventuality.

## SAFER RECRUITMENT PRACTICES

We follow safer recruitment processes to ensure that all staff members that work with us are suitable for working with children; this includes conducting appropriate background checks and following up on references for everyone. We also require external suppliers (eg. transfer providers) to do the same.

## MOBILE PHONE POLICY

While staying with us, students can only use their mobile phones for a limited time in the evenings, while connected to Westonbirt School's safe student network. As well as ensuring that students use their time to communicate with each other, this also helps prevent safeguarding issues linked to the online world. Students do have access to their phones on trips.

## DEALING WITH HOMESICKNESS

We know that younger students may find it challenging to adjust to a completely new school environment far from home, and we have great experience in supporting them as well as their families through any periods of homesickness.





# AIRPORT TRANSFERS

We provide two levels of airport transfer service: an Economy Transfer Service from London Heathrow Airport, and a Private Transfer Service available from several other airports too.

## ECONOMY TRANSFER SERVICE

The budget-friendly Economy Transfer Service is available from London Heathrow Airport on Wednesdays. This includes a meet & greet service by a member of school staff or a driver inside the terminal building. On departure, our staff member or driver also takes students to the check-in desk.

The Economy Transfer Service is only available on Wednesdays for flights:

- Arriving between 9am and 6pm
- Departing between 10am and 7pm

**Waiting times:** We plan for our staff member or driver to meet arriving students approximately 45 minutes after their flight arrives (or later if there are delays through arrivals). While we operate multiple shuttle buses and minibuses on each arrival and departure day, using this service means that students may have to wait up to three hours at the airport for their coach or minibus to depart.

## PREMIUM TRANSFER SERVICE

Our Premium Transfer Service is available from all London airports, as well as Bristol Airport and London St Pancras International Station. This option also includes a meet & greet service by a member of school staff or a driver inside the terminal building. On departure, our staff member or driver also takes students to the check-in desk.

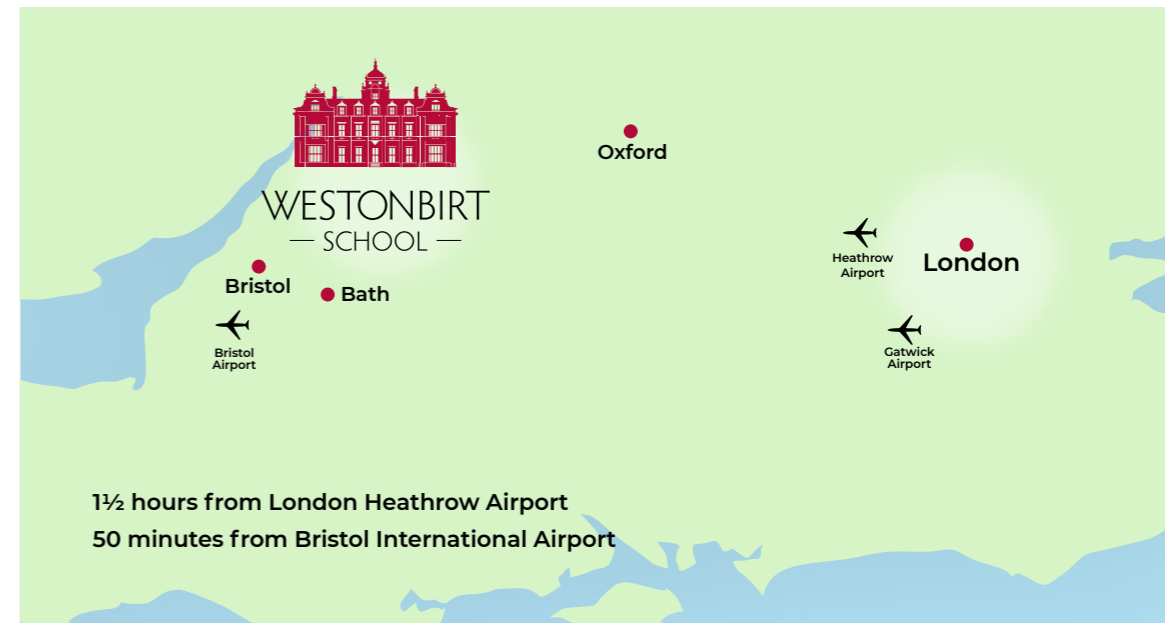
Students travelling together can share the same Private Transfer Service.

**Waiting times:** We plan for our staff member or driver to meet arriving students approximately 45 minutes after their flight arrives (or later if there are delays through arrivals). Premium Transfers leave the airport or station immediately after collecting the student



## UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

We are happy to assist with the arrival and departure of unaccompanied children. It is the responsibility of the family to ensure that this service is available and booked with the airline, and that all necessary paperwork is handed over to us.





WESTONBIRT  
— SCHOOL —



# WESTONBIRT SUMMER SCHOOL

[WWW.WESTONBIRT.ORG/SUMMER-SCHOOL](http://WWW.WESTONBIRT.ORG/SUMMER-SCHOOL)

WESTONBIRT SCHOOL, TETBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GL8 8QG